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Online Safety

Online Gaming

Gaming can be great for socialising and an amazing outlet for your imagination, but it also has its downsides.

Is gaming having a negative impact on your life?

In moderation, gaming is a great way to relax and kick back with friends online. Many online games are designed to keep you playing for as long as possible, so it can be hard to stop playing once you start.

Are you getting harassed by others while gaming?

It can be an amazing experience to interact with other players online but if another player is being inappropriate, bullying or harassing you, here are some steps you can take. You can also read about unwanted contact and signs to look out for.

To find out more see: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/online-gaming>

Games

Rocket League

Rocket League is a video game that combines arcade-style soccer and driving games. You play by controlling rocket-powered vehicles, which you can use to score goals with a giant soccer ball. Gameplay is energetic and chaotic as the cars can flip and fly in all directions.

Find out how to report a player or contact support; how to protect your personal information and key safety links here: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide/rocket-league>

Overwatch

Overwatch is a team-based multiplayer first-person shooter game by Blizzard. There are two releases in the cartoon-styled, science fiction series: Overwatch and Overwatch 2.

Find out how to report harassment or inappropriate content, block a player or have your personal data removed; how to protect your personal information and key safety links here: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide/overwatch>

Discord

Discord is a social chat platform commonly used by online gamers that is available on computers and mobile devices, and accessible via a web browser. It lets you create a profile and interact with other users via online messaging, voice or video chat. You can share images, files and links to other services.

Find out how to report online abuse or block someone; how to protect your personal information and key safety links here: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide/discord>

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is the use of technology to bully a person with the intent to hurt or intimidate them. One in five young people have been bullied online.

Some examples of cyberbullying include:

- hurtful or abusive messages
- creating fake accounts in someone's name to trick or humiliate people
- spreading nasty rumours or lies about someone
- sharing photos of someone to make fun of them or humiliate them

To find out more see: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/cyberbullying>

Trolling

Trolling is when someone makes a deliberately provocative comment or post and waits for people to take the bait.

When encountering trolling the following steps should be taken: don't feed the trolls, Screenshot evidence, Report and block, Report to eSafety and Talk to someone or get help

To find out more see: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/trolling>

Banter vs Bullying

Banter is typically playful teasing between friends, whether it's an inside joke between school mates or a meme you're sharing in a group chat. But sometimes it can go too far.

Banter is meant to be light-hearted and friendly, but sometimes it can be taken too far, or escalate into bullying behaviour. You might not even realise you're doing it.

To find out more see: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/banter-vs-bullying>